Tauschia hooveri Math & Const.

Hoover's tauschia
Apiaceae (Parsley Family)

Status: State Threatened, USFWS Species of Concern
Rank: G2S2

General Description: Low-growing perennial, characterized by a globe-shaped tuberous root 2-3 inches below the surface. The leaves, which are few in number, are petiolate and ternately or pinnately divided into linear segments typically ⅔ to 1½ inch long and 1/16 inch wide, although they occasionally get much larger. Non-flowering plants (perhaps immature individuals) have leaves which are less divided. The leaf margins are reflexed, giving them the appearance of being grooved or channeled. Fruiting pedicels remain quite short.

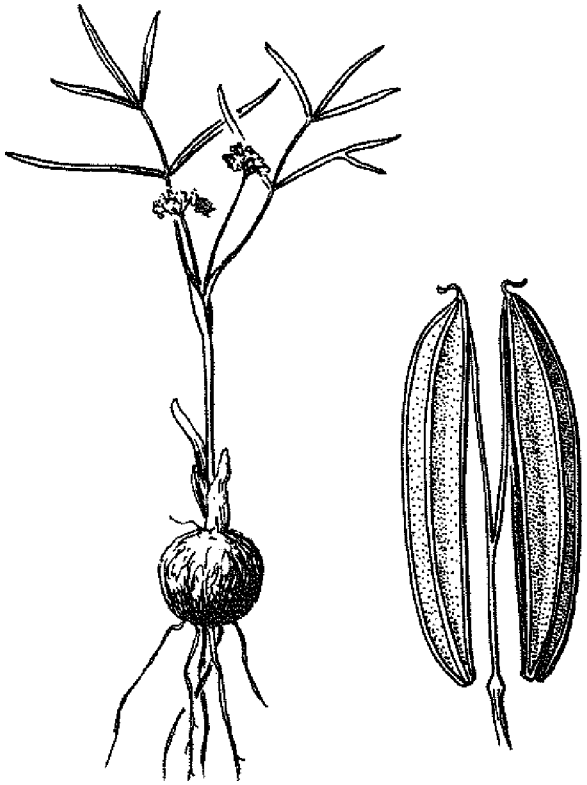
Identification Tips: Several members of the genus *Lomatium*, which are (or can be) morphologically quite similar to *Tauschia hooveri*, occur within its range, including *L. geyeri*, *L. piperi*, *L. gormanii* and *L. farinosum* var. *hambleniae*. The latter two are both most similar in appearance and most likely to occur within the lithosolic microsites preferred by *T. hooveri*. One characteristic which distinguishes *T. hooveri* from both is that its leaf margins are generally reflexed, giving a channeled or grooved appearance to the leaves. The leaves of *T. hooveri* are a deeper green, appearing to have a bluish tint, rather than the somwhat yellowish tint of *L. hambleniae* var. *farinosum*. *L. farinosum* var. *hambleniae* can also be distinguished by its yellow flowers, or if in fruit, its elongated pedicels (¼ to 1 inch).

Phenology: The timing of the emergence of the first leaves, flowering, fruiting, etc. is undoubtedly closely related to weather conditions during late winter and early spring. Individuals generally begin to flower as early as the second week in March, with a majority of individuals being in full bloom during the third week. By the end of March some individuals have immature fruits, while others still have petals present. By mid-April most individuals are in fruit. By late April many individuals have begun to senesce.

Range: Regional endemic, extending from Toppenish Ridge in south central Yakima County, northward to the southeastern foothills of the Wenatchee Mountains in east-central Kittitas County, encompassing an area approximately 65 miles x 15 miles. Occurs within the Columbia Basin physiographic province.

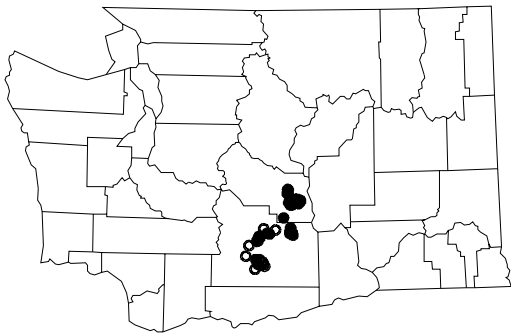
Tauschia hooveri

Hoover's tauschia



©1969 University of Washington Press. Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish.

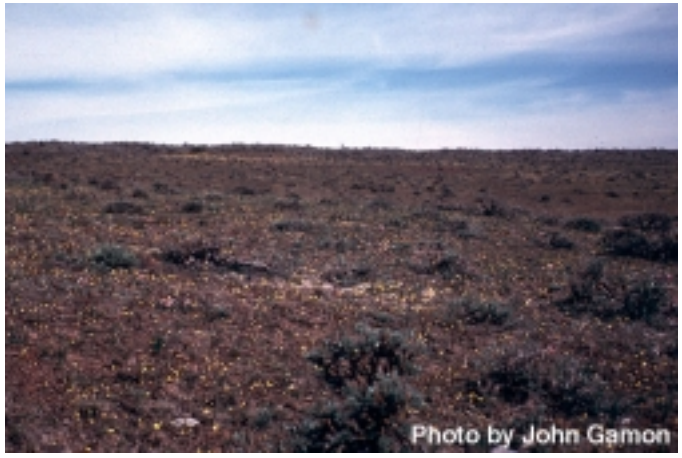
Known distribution of *Tauschia hooveri* in Washington



● Current (1980+)
○ Historic (older than 1980)

Tauschia hooveri

Hoover's tauschia



1999 Produced as part of a cooperative project between the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington Natural Heritage Program, and the U.S.D.I. Bureau of Land Management. Persons needing this information in an alternate format may call (360)902-1340 or TTY (360)902-1125.

Tauschia hooveri

Hoover's tauschia

Habitat: *Tauschia hooveri* occurs on basalt lithosols within shrub-steppe habitats. The vegetative cover provided by vascular plants within these microsites is generally low, ranging between 10% and 50%. Associated species include Sandberg's bluegrass (*Poa secunda*), stiff sagebrush (*Artemisia rigida*), spinescent fameflower (*Talinum spinescens*), scilla-like onion (*Allium scilloides*), sagebrush violet (*Viola trinervata*), bitterroot (*Lewisia rediviva*), Canby's lomatium (*Lomatium canbyi*), and cushion fleabane (*Erigeron poliospermus*). Bare rocks and gravel are prominent, with generally very little soil present. The sites are well-drained. Average annual precipitation is approximately 9 to 15 inches. Elevation ranges from 1400 to 3000 feet. *T. hooveri* occurs on essentially flat microsites, with slopes of less than 5%.

Ecology: The shrub-steppe associations within which *Tauschia hooveri* occurs appear to be quite stable; changes in species composition and community structure occur very slowly. Whereas adjacent areas with deeper soils, and subsequently more vegetation, are subject to periodic fires, the *T. hooveri* sites generally do not support enough vegetation to carry a fire.

State Status Comments: The relatively small range of the species and its restriction to a specific habitat within that range are the primary factors contributing to its status.

Inventory Needs: Additional inventory is needed in suitable habitats throughout its range, especially on the Yakima Training Center.

Threats and Management Concerns: Continued development may result in further losses of habitat for the taxon. Orchard expansion and housing development may result in some degradation or loss of habitat. Herbicide spray drift may affect some populations. Grazing, ORV use and road construction are also potential threats.

References:

Hitchcock, C. L., A. Cronquist, M. Ownbey, and J.W. Thompson. 1961. *Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest, Part 3: Saxifragaceae to Ericaceae.* University of Washington Press, Seattle. 614 pp.

1999 Produced as part of a cooperative project between the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington Natural Heritage Program, and the U.S.D.I. Bureau of Land Management. Persons needing this information in an alternate format may call (360)902-1340 or TTY (360)902-1125.